

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78272

Hiroshi NAKAZATO

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: **November 26, 2003**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF CALCULATING TONER CONSUMPTION AMOUNT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Attorney Docket No.: **Q78272**

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

An English language abstract, submitted herewith, constitutes a concise statement of relevance for Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. 6-138769, which corresponds to USP No. 5,635,972.

A complete English translation of Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. 2002-174929 is being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such foreign language document is required. However, an English language abstract is also provided herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: **November 26, 2003**

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|---|---|----|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| <p>Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p> | | | | <p><i>Complete if Known</i></p> | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Application Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | November 26, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Hiroshi NAKAZATO |
| | | | | Art Unit | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | Q78272 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reissue of the Emperor must